

University of San Diego

Digital USD

Humanities Center Annual Reports

Humanities Center

Summer 2017

Humanities Center Annual Report 2016-2017

Humanities Center, University of San Diego

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Humanities Center

Annual Report 2016-2017



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Mission

USD's Humanities Center is dedicated to the exploration of the human condition and the limitless ways in which human beings understand and interact with our world.



Letter from the Director

USD's Humanities Center opened its doors on October 13th 2016, and has since that day been a bustling hive of activity. Made possible by a generous gift from our principal donor, Carol Vassiliadis, the Center sits at the very heart of campus, both geographically and intellectually, and is an emblem of the USD's commitment to the value of the arts and humanities. Its establishment was the result of a drive — spearheaded by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Noelle Norton, and heartily supported by our Provost, Andy Allen — to promote the liberal arts at a time when the value and usefulness of liberal education is often questioned.

As originally conceived, and now put into practice, the Humanities Center provides a home for faculty, students and the wider community to exchange ideas and engage in interdisciplinary activities fostering collaboration between the humanities and other modes of inquiry into human experience. Operating with an expansive and inclusive conception of the humanities, the Humanities Center is distinguished by its student-centered and public-oriented dimensions, and its activities are divisible into four elements: collaborative research; digital humanities; interdisciplinary curricular development; and public humanities. It is also home to a specially designed gallery that in its first year alone has housed an exhilarating sequence of thought-provoking exhibitions.

It is a delight to share with you our first annual report. In it you will read how our activities have engaged faculty, students, staff, and members of the wider San Diego community. You will also read about the Center's award of a \$250,000 Keck Foundation Grant to support faculty and student collaborative research; and you will learn about our "Dangerous Ideas" series scheduled for the 2017-2018 academic year. This level of activity and engagement was precisely what was hoped when we first envisioned a multi-faceted, open and welcoming center, dedicated to exploring the nature and perplexities of the human condition.

Over the course of the year, it has been a great joy for me to see the Humanities Center brimming with people engaged in the discussion and production of ideas. I look forward to sharing next year's activities and events with all of you interested in exploring the relationship between the humanities and your own interests and experiences.



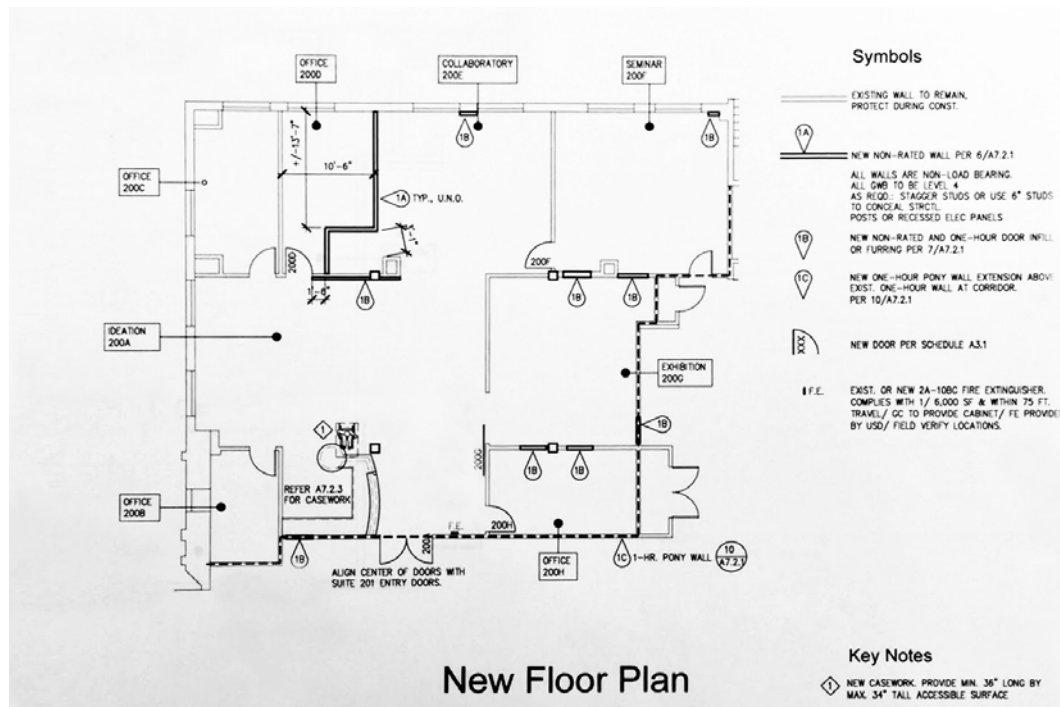
BRIAN R. CLACK, PHD

**Director, Humanities Center
Professor, Philosophy**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brian R. Clack", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Brian R. Clack
Director

THE HUMANITIES CENTER
OPENED AFTER A SUMMER
OF EXCITING RENOVATIONS
IN SERRA HALL.

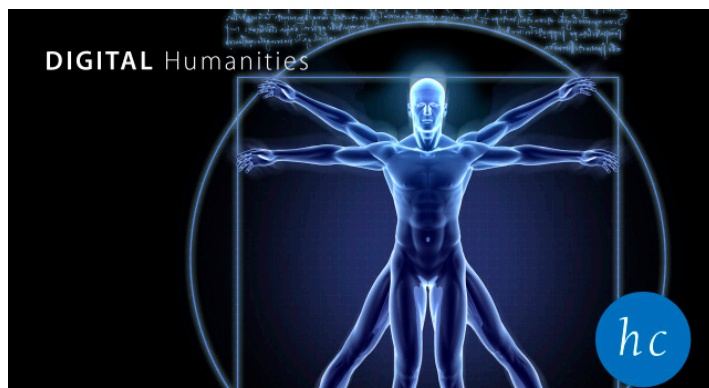


Element Reports

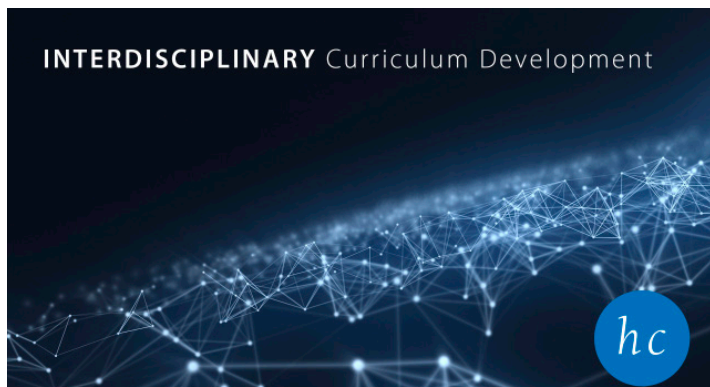
COLLABORATIVE Research



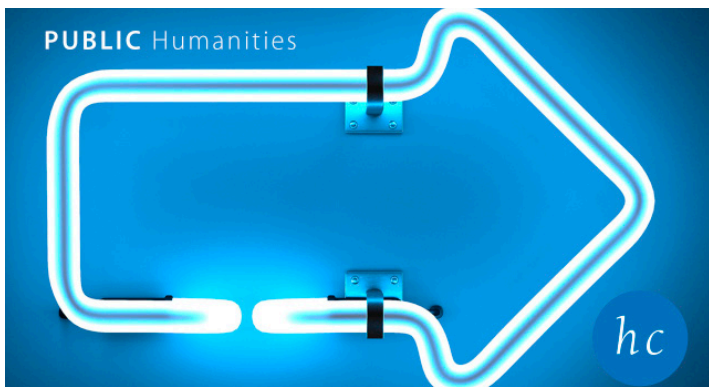
DIGITAL Humanities



INTERDISCIPLINARY Curriculum Development



PUBLIC Humanities



Collaborative Research

Accomplishments

The collaborative research element aims to initiate, convene and promote exceptional opportunities for student-faculty-community partnerships centered on relevant humanities issues. Activities range broadly from short-term learning occasions to more ambitious and longer-term projects.

Collaborative research has been an exciting feature of the Humanities Center in 2016-2017. The highlights have been the successful restructuring of the well-established Knapp Chair of Liberal Arts program and the launching of two new programs made possible by the College's awarding of a sizable grant by the W. M. Keck Foundation this Spring.

The Knapp Chair of Liberal Arts program has been restructured to welcome three chairs each year for shorter, more engaging visits, and for a more vibrant and inclusive interdisciplinary involvement across divisions and units. This year's Knapp program brought critical urban historian and polymath Mike Davis, famed University of California, Los Angeles medieval historian Teófilo Ruiz, and San Francisco State University biologist and metacognition expert Kimberly Tanner. The stellar workshops and presentations of the Knapp chairs were anchored by the exciting engagement of the Research Working Groups — teams of four to six faculty and four to six undergraduate students across departments and divisions who not only coordinated the visit details, but delved deeply into the scholars' work for, in one case, the entire semester.

In the Spring, the W. M. Keck Foundation granted the College funds to support undergraduate engagement in the humanities, and the Humanities Center designed and launched two new programs: the Keck Undergraduate Humanities Research Fellowship, and the Faculty Interdisciplinary Research Startup (FIRSt) grants. These two programs support year-long intensive interdisciplinary research by, respectively, outstanding undergraduates with their faculty mentor, and faculty-student teams that have greater research trajectories. Although these new collaborative research grant opportunities were launched late in the year, they have already generated considerable excitement and seem poised to invigorate USD's interdisciplinary humanities research environment.

Digital Humanities

Accomplishments

Digital humanities is a highly collaborative field of scholarship and pedagogy that blends new technologies with rigorous humanities scholarship. Goals of the digital humanities element fall into three overlapping categories: faculty development, project development, and pedagogy/curriculum development.

The major accomplishment of the Digital Humanities (DH) element of the Humanities Center was the opening of the DH Studio. Twelve MacBooks, two iMacs, and a Dell Windows desktop were configured with a wide variety of software packages intended to support teaching and faculty and student research. Within the first month of the DH Studio opening, we hosted the SD|DH Learning through Digital Humanities Showcase. In the Spring 2017 semester, the DH Studio has served as the classroom for ENGL 494 - Digital Humanities, taking advantage of the hands-on experience the studio technology makes available to students. The DH Studio also provided the instructional space for a series of DH Workshops offered for faculty, staff, and students on Scalar, encryption and security, and Zotero.

In addition, the USD DH team collaborated with the SD|DH network (USD, UCSD, SDSU, CSUSM and the Community College District) and gained NEH recognition for our work. Several USD faculty members also participated in the NEH-sponsored SD|DH Pedagogy Workshops, and the Humanities Center DH team also performed DH outreach to numerous faculty members at USD. The Tudor Plays Project (TPP), a signature DH project of the Humanities Center, also designed and launched the Tudor Plays Project's pilot website (tudorplays.org), and the TPP's research students presented their work at the Creative Collaborations undergraduate research conference.

Interdisciplinary Curriculum

Accomplishments

The interdisciplinary curriculum element is dedicated to the development of mechanisms encouraging and fostering novel cooperation involving the humanities and other disciplines/schools within the University of San Diego. The Humanities Center functions as an incubating hatchery, in which interdisciplinary majors, minors and courses, team-taught classes, and course clusters are envisaged, nurtured and brought to fruition.

2016-17 was a very productive year for the Interdisciplinary Curriculum (IC) element of USD's Humanities Center. For the first time, we convened a committee consisting of the directors of the College's seven interdisciplinary minors and two interdisciplinary majors that are not within departments. This committee initiated collaborative efforts to publicize interdisciplinary academic programs on campus, and partnered with USD's Career Development Center to hold an interdisciplinary majors and minors fair in the Humanities Center salon.

The IC element also played an important role in fostering the development of two new interdisciplinary minors — Changemaking

and Film Studies — both of which will become available to students in Fall 2017. Pop-up courses in the Humanities Center were launched this year, including a course in Medical Humanities called “The Human Side of Medicine.” We are excited about the potential for additional pop-up courses in 2017-18, with support from the Keck grant. To encourage new collaborations with colleagues in the Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering, the Center hosted an interdisciplinary “speed dating” event involving faculty from the College and Engineering. Faculty who indicated interest in team-teaching interdisciplinary courses are able to apply for additional support to develop these ideas.

Public Humanities

Accomplishments

The Humanities Center provides opportunities for USD not only to organize and coordinate liberal arts initiatives and programs for our campus community, but also to establish partnerships with the broader San Diego community and beyond. In this manner, the Center is engaged in the practice of what is known as “public humanities” — the intersection of civic engagement and the study of the human condition, and manifests its commitment to ensuring the accessibility of the humanities to our wider community.

The Public Humanities initiatives undertaken during the Humanities Center’s first year can be divided into two types: events that are open to all members of the San Diego community (and beyond); and activities and events that are the result of collaborative engagement with community partners.

One representative of the first type of initiative is the highly successful and popular Illume Speaker Series. The series consists of two aspects: talks by visiting speakers and authors; and — through the College Lecture Series — a showcase of the remarkable research being undertaken by College of Arts and Sciences faculty, presented in terms accessible to a non-specialist audience. Visiting speakers this year included Pankaj Mishra and Alexander Nemerov as well as authors from our collaboration with Warwick’s Books, La Jolla, California — Deepak Chopra and Ann Patchet. Many community members also attended our

“New Political Landscape” series, each session of which tackled a pressing topic arising from the convulsive national and international events of the last year. The principal focus of our partnership-building this year has been with local veterans’ organizations. A collaboration with the Travis Manion Foundation led to the first instantiation of our “Philosophy for Veterans” seminar, a small and intimate discussion group focusing on the central questions of philosophy as these pertain to the veteran experience. A second collaboration — with Combat Arts San Diego, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization — produced what was perhaps the most dramatic of this year’s events in the Humanities Center: the transformation of our gallery into a replica of a patrol base utilized during a combat deployment in Iraq.

Humanities Center Gallery

Accomplishments

An elegant multi-purpose exhibition space nested within the Humanities Center itself was launched in the fall of 2016. Programming reflects the diverse and innovative practices of the new Center, including (but not limited to) digital humanities, interdisciplinary research, and creative engagement with the public humanities.

The Humanities Center Gallery mounted four temporary exhibitions. The first was an experimental project entitled *Imprint: Student Acquisitions from USD's Print Collection* that featured 10 works, all of which were selected by undergraduates as part of courses they took in the Department of Art, Architecture + Art History. The second project in the fall was conceived in partnership with Department of Communications' faculty member, Jillian Tullis. This project, *Thoughts in Passing: Drawings by Claudia Biçen*, featured eight life-sized drawings of individuals confronting end of life situations. Spring exhibitions included a similarly deep collaboration with a local veterans support group, Combat Arts San Diego, and the University's own Veterans Center. *Full Immersion: An American Patrol Base in Iraq* temporarily transformed the gallery space into a replica of a military command post. The final project was a sprawling installation, *Traffic 2017*, featuring student artists and curators working together to "consolidate and display the various strains of creative production at the university."

Multiple lectures and panel discussions were held in support of these visual projects: Alexander Nemerov, The Carl and Marilyn Thoma Provostial Professor in the Arts and the Humanities at Stanford University, helped inaugurate the Center's year by delivering a captivating lecture entitled "Two Americas, One Place: Grandma Moses and Shirley Jackson." Claudia Biçen spoke movingly on "Thoughts in Passing: What the Dying Can Teach Us" in conjunction the display of her work that took place in November, and a panel entitled "Listen, Connect, Rethink: Veterans and Art" accompanied *Full Immersion* in February. Preston Singletary, renowned for the monumental sculpture in cast glass that he creates in the Pacific Northwest, delivered the first Distinguished Lecture in Native American Arts, sponsored jointly by the May Collection and Department of Ethnic Studies, in April.

Finally, three original works of art on paper were acquired for the purpose of rotating displays within the public areas of the Humanities Center: Mel Bochner's, "Blah, Blah, Blah" (2012), Leonardo Drew's "CPP3" (2015), and Emma Stibbon's "Aqueduct, Rome" (2011).

The *Alcalá Review*

Accomplishments

The *Alcalá Review* is USD's literary journal, committed to fostering creative community by showcasing exceptional creative works by undergraduates and by hosting or participating in an array literary events through USD's English Department. A student-run organization, *The Alcalá Review* is USD's premiere publication venue for undergraduate creative work.

The Alcalá Review, USD's student-run campus literary journal, had an especially active year, hosting five readings, two writers' workshops, one flash-writing fundraiser (with proceeds benefiting the African Library Project), and participating in campus events ranging from the Alcalá Bazaar to Prints and Pinot, Creative Collaborations, the *Traffic 2017* opening reception, and English department open houses and informationals.

The Alcalá Review also published two new issues showcasing fiction, nonfiction, poetry and photography from the USD student body: a Fall issue which included work by the 2016 winners and runners-up of the Lindsay J. Cropper Creative Writing Contest, and a Spring issue that featured a special collaboration with art and architecture students highlighting works from the *Traffic 2017* student exhibition.



Programs and Events

THE HUMANITIES CENTER PRESENTS

HUMANITIES and the New Political Landscape

In the uncertainty of a new political landscape faces us, USD's Humanities Center will offer a series of programs intended to address some of the most important challenges and issues of our times.

Alongside special lectures, student working groups, and workshops will be a weekly panel discussion in which experts and specialists address such issues as climate change, truth and objectivity, race and identity, immigration, foreign policy, and challenges facing journalism and the media.

All events are free and held in the Humanities Center in Serra Hall unless otherwise noted. Visit www.sandiego.edu/humanitiescenter for more information.

New Political Landscape: Themes and Issues	Workshops and Seminars	Guest Speakers
Tuesdays at 4-5:30 p.m.	Plato Our Contemporary Readers Reading Group Tuesdays, February 10 to May 4 at 6-7 p.m.	John Alexander, Author <i>Clash of Values: Plato, Aristotle, and the Shattering of the American Dream</i> Mondays, February 22 at 5 p.m. Humanities Center
January 31 February 14 February 20 February 27 March 6 March 13 April 4 April 18 April 25	Power of the Powerless Discussion Group Thursdays, March 3 and April 7 at 10:30 a.m.	Parag Mehta, Author <i>Age of Anger: A History of the Present</i> Wednesdays, March 15 at 6 p.m. Warren Hall Registration to follow
Visit the Humanities Center website for topics and additional programs.	Views of the Political System of the United States Discussion Group Tuesdays, March 14 and 21 at 12:30-2 p.m.	Conversation with the Art: Detention League Thursdays, May 2 at 4 - 5:30 p.m. Humanities Center
	Political Ideas and Ideologies: Understanding and Building Governance Thursdays at 12:30-2 p.m. March 16, 23, 30 and April 6	
	Digital Humanities Tools: Encryption Thursdays, March 18 at 12:30-2 p.m.	

University of San Diego

The Knapp Lecture Series and 14th Annual Laboritz-Perez Lecture presents

Knapp Chair Research Working Groups

TOPIC DISCUSSIONS WITH
Mike Davis
Distinguished Professor
University of California at Riverside
Fall 2016 Knapp Chair of Liberal Arts
Ethnic Studies and Sociology

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Please visit us online at www.sandiego.edu/ucavvents.

Basists of the Urban/Party/Region: The Gang Banging & Mapping the Urban
Thursday, October 20, 2016
12:30-2 p.m.
Humanities Center, Serra Hall
Readings can be found at the USD Coplan Library subject list: coplanlibrary.org/subjectlist
US Cities, Gangs, Immigration/US-Mexican Border, Social Class, Inequality/Social Polarization & Struggles for Citizenship, Human Rights & Social Justice in the Region: From the Beyond

Political Ecology, Landscapes of Exclusion, & Popular Struggles
Thursday, October 27, 2016
12:30-2 p.m.
Humanities Center, Serra Hall
Readings can be found at the USD Coplan Library subject list: coplanlibrary.org/subjectlist
History/Political Ecology/Cold War, Environmental Justice/Global Climate Change

Latino & the Changing Social Foundations of US Catholicism
With Mike Davis, Orlando Espin and Alberto Pulido
Thursday, November 3, 2016
12:30-2 p.m.
Humanities Center, Serra Hall
Readings can be found at the USD Coplan Library subject list: coplanlibrary.org/subjectlist
Catholic Church/Social Thought

JUSTICE FREEDOM COMMUNITY

POLITICAL IDEAS & IDEOLOGIES
IN THE 2016 ELECTION

Join us for a student and faculty discussion of competing visions of a just polity, the nature of freedom, and the pursuit of a healthy political community. If you've felt beaten down by this deeply silly election, come explore how the intersection of scholarship and citizenship can be good for our democracy and for our souls.

Thursday, Oct. 20: "What does Justice really mean?"
Thursday, Oct. 27: "What does Freedom really mean?"
Thursday, Nov. 3: "What does Community really mean?"

12:30-2 p.m. | Serra Hall, Room 215 // REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

THE HUMANITIES CENTER PRESENTS

PLATO Our Contemporary

Tuesdays at 6-7 p.m.
February 14 through May 10
Humanities Center, Serra Hall 200

FOR MORE INFORMATION
info@san Diego.edu
www.sandiego.edu/humanities-center

In these sessions we'll explore Plato's vision for a civil society as outlined in *The Republic*, paying special attention to the criticisms of democracy and how such perils are present in our current political landscape. Our goal is to have discussions rooted in Plato's text that can inform our own understanding of the November election results. The seminar is student/non-faculty led and is designed as an informal but committed reading group (meaning there will be weekly reading requirements).

Anyone interested should contact Miles Parnegg at miles@san Diego.edu or Lia Fior at lfi@san Diego.edu.

University of San Diego
COLLEGE OF ARTS
AND SCIENCES

THE HUMANITIES CENTER PRESENTS

Examined Life First-Year Seminar

Thursday Evenings

Sessions are held on three Thursday evenings. Choose from one of four sessions.

Session Dates:
March 2, March 23, April 6

Session Times:
4:30-6 p.m. or 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Humanities Center, Serra Hall
University of San Diego
5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92162

FOR MORE INFORMATION
We can be reached at sandiego.edu/humanities-center or humanitiescenter@sandiego.edu

This seminar for first-year students examines what it means to lead a good life, a productive life, a happy life, a life of meaning.

Join an open dialogue and free reflections with your peers and Drs. Michael Kelley and Brian Mingo to address life's biggest questions. Explore more about who you love and what you wish for, how you envision and face the challenges and goals of your life, and how being here, at USD, will help you get there.

Register online at: <https://shpm2016.eventbrite.com>

Humanities Through a Regional Network

An NEH Office of Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant Project based in San Diego

LEARNING THROUGH DIGITAL HUMANITIES

A SHOWCASE

Digital Humanities learners of *all levels at all institutions* in San Diego, join us to share best practices and projects. This event builds upon the NEH-sponsored Digital Humanities Pedagogy workshops and continues that project's mission: to build and strengthen Digital Humanities through a regional network.

10/21 9am-5pm	USD Humanities Center	Free & Open to the public
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GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

Imprint: Student Acquisitions from USD's Collections

October 13, 2016 – October 28, 2016

The inaugural exhibition in the Humanities Center Gallery, *Imprint* featured the initial results of an inspired gift from the Legler Benbough Foundation. The new endowment has enabled University Galleries to launch a student-driven acquisitions program. Undergraduates are given the opportunity to identify and acquire works of art, usually as a group project embedded into the course syllabus of an art history class taught at USD.

Full Immersion: An American Patrol Base in Iraq

February 1, 2017 – March 3, 2017

Opening Reception: February 1, 2017

Panel Discussion: "Listen, Connect, Rethink: Veterans and Art" on February 15, 2017

Full Immersion: An American Patrol Base in Iraq transformed the gallery space into a reproduction of an American patrol base that would have been utilized during the Iraq war. The installation was an immersive experience that allowed for an intimate glimpse into the workings and daily life of a patrol base. All of the objects, sounds, and imagery seen in the installation represent the firsthand experiences of two Marine combat veterans from Combat Arts San Diego who developed and constructed this project.



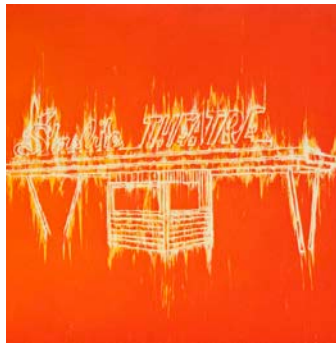
Thoughts in Passing: Portrait Exhibition

November 21, 2016 – December 14, 2016

Opening Reception: November 21, 2016

Lecture: "Thoughts in Passing: What the Dying Can Teach Us" on November 21, 2016

Thoughts in Passing featured life-sized portraits of eight Californians who knew they are dying. Using portraiture as a catalyst for talking about living and dying, Claudia Biçen's subjects reveal in their own words, through brief audio clips, what makes life meaningful. The combination of drawing and spoken word invite us to be present with the subjects as they contemplate their own living and dying, but also consider what gives our own lives meaning. One of her portraits from this collection, is currently on display in the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.



Traffic 2017: A Collection of Student Work

April 10, 2017 – April 28, 2017

Opening Reception: April 19, 2017

Traffic 2017 was a student-led exhibition of current student work produced at USD. It consolidated and displayed the various strains of creative production at the university. The multimedia and multi- locational show cuts across departments and covers everything from introductory courses to senior projects.



DIGITAL HUMANITIES

SD|DH Learning through Digital Humanities: A Showcase

October 21, 2016

SD|DH Learning through Digital Humanities: A Showcase was in collaboration with USD's Center for Educational Excellence, Academic Technology Services, and Office of Undergraduate Research. This event disseminated the work of SD|DH's 2015-16 NEH-sponsored Digital Pedagogy Workshops, and highlighted a variety of innovative DH approaches to pedagogy, students' DH work in classes and in undergraduate research activities, and faculty DH projects that engaged students meaningfully in digital research.



Research Week at USD 2017: Digital Humanities Student Projects

April 19, 2017

For the last two years, USD has offered an innovative course exploring the intersection of technology with the humanities (ENGL 294 - Intro to Digital Research in 2016, and ENGL 494 - Digital Humanities in 2017). The course was offered in the state-of-the-art Digital Humanities Studio in the new Humanities Center. Displayed were samples of student projects in the Digital Humanities Studio.

Digital Humanities Tools Workshop: Scalar

February 16, 2017

Scalar is a free, open-source authoring and publishing platform designed to make it easy for authors in the humanities and humanistic social sciences to write and publish long-form, born-digital, scholarship online. Scalar enables users to enrich their own writing with variety of media, and this platform requires minimal technical knowledge.

Digital Humanities Tools Workshop: Encryption

March 16, 2017

Interest in online privacy, and the encryption tools needed to protect it, has increased in recent months. For instance, ProtonMail, an encrypted email service hosted in Switzerland, saw a 100% increase in new accounts in November alone, while Signal, a secure messaging app, has experienced a 400% increase in downloads since the election.

Digital Humanities Tools Workshop: Zotero

April 27, 2017

Zotero is a free, easy-to-use research tool designed to help you collect, organize, cite, and share your research resources. Zotero automatically senses content in your web browser, allowing you to add it to your personal library with a single click. Whether you're searching for a journal article from JSTOR, a news story from the New York Times, or a book from the USD library catalog, Zotero collects all your research in a single, searchable interface.



ILLUME SPEAKER SERIES

The College of Arts and Sciences is the liberal arts heart of the University of San Diego. Our students and faculty exemplify the power, vitality and value of a liberal arts and sciences education every day. To champion the tradition and future of the *artes liberales*, we have created the Humanities Center Illume Speaker Series featuring our own renowned faculty scholars, invited thought-leaders and prominent public figures to advance the liberal arts on our campus and inspire lifelong learning in our surrounding communities.

Knapp Chair of Liberal Arts Series

Mike Davis, PhD

“Who Will Build the Ark?: The Anthropocene and the Challenges of the 21st Century”

October 24, 2016

Teófilo Ruiz, PhD

“1492 Revisited”

February 24, 2017

Kimberly Tanner, PhD

“Card Sorting, Superheroes, and Moving Towards Measuring the Development of Disciplinary Expertise among Undergraduates”

March 27, 2017

Special Guest Series

Alexander Nemerov, PhD

“Two Americas, One Place: Grandma Moses and Shirley Jackson”

October 12, 2016

Rev. Robert W. McElroy, Bishop of San Diego

“Reclaiming our National Politics”

November 1, 2016

Joanna Williams, PhD

“Academic Freedom in an Age of Conformity”

November 14, 2016

Brian Alexander, Author

“Glass House: The 1% Economy and the Shattering of the All-American Town”

February 27, 2017

Pankaj Mishra, Author

“The Age of Anger: A History of the Present”

March 15, 2017

College Lecture Series

Lisa Nunn, PhD

“Defining Student Success: The Role of School and Culture”

December 5, 2016

Joseph Provost, PhD

“Molecules in the Kitchen: How to Make Better Food with Science”

March 13, 2017

Michael Kelly, PhD

“Phenomenology and the Problem of Time”

April 24, 2017

Warwick's Author Series

Carl Hiaasen, Author

September 14, 2016

Ann Patchett, Author

September 23, 2016

Deepak Chopra, Author

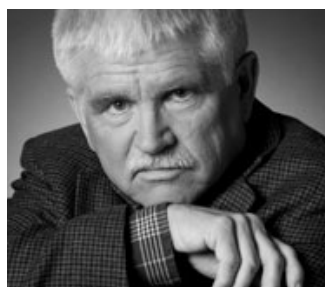
February 20, 2017

The logo for the Illume Speaker Series, featuring the word "illume" in a white, lowercase, serif font against a dark blue rectangular background.

KNAPP CHAIR OF LIBERAL ARTS

The Knapp Chair of Liberal Arts was established in 1995 by a generous endowment from the estate of Mary and Churchill Knapp of La Jolla, California, long-time supporters of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of San Diego. The earnings have helped to support the expenses of distinguished scholars who are appointed by the Dean from three divisional areas: Arts and Humanities, Natural Sciences & Mathematics, and Social Sciences. The Knapp Chairs contribute to the vitality and centrality of liberal arts in the College by teaching and interacting with students, collaborating with faculty, and presenting public lectures that engage our campus community in confronting humanity's urgent challenges.

Social Sciences



Mike Davis, PhD

Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Creative Writing at the University of California, Riverside
Professor Emeritus, History at the University of California, Irvine

Research Working Group

Faculty Leads: Tom Reifer, PhD and Jesse Mills, PhD
Student Fellows: Kaylin Bourdon, Paola Gabriela Carrasco, Jane Henderson, Mychal Odom, Imani Payton, Tiasha Rogers, Bethany Woloszyn-Redman

Arts and Humanities



Teófilo Ruiz, PhD

Professor, History & Robert and Dorothy Wellman Chair in Medieval History at the University of California, Los Angeles

Research Working Group

Faculty Lead: Tom Barton, PhD
Student Fellows: Emily Bezold, Emily Bolender, Cami Carlomagno, Emma Doolittle, Megan Goodman

Natural Sciences and Math



Kimberly Tanner, PhD

Professor, Biology and Director, SEPAL at San Francisco State University

Research Working Group

Faculty Lead: Sue Lowry, PhD
Student Fellows: Christian Potter, Karli Wittenberg

NEW POLITICAL LANDSCAPE SERIES

As the uncertainty of a new political landscape faces us, USD's Humanities Center offered a series of programs intended to address some of the most important challenges and issues of our times. We engaged in intellectual discourse that exercises understanding and solidarity in our current political climate. Alongside special lectures, student working groups, and workshops was a weekly panel discussion of experts and specialists that addressed such issues as: climate change, truth and objectivity, race and identity, immigration, foreign policy, and the role of media.

Truth and Objectivity in the New Politics

January 31, 2017

Ashley Feinsinger, PhD
Assistant Professor, Philosophy

Michael Kelly, PhD
Assistant Professor, Philosophy

Brad Melekian, MFA
Assistant Professor, English

Immigration and the Trump Administration

February 14, 2017

Everard Meade, PhD
Director, Trans-Border Institute

Antonieta Mercado, PhD
Assistant Professor, Communication Studies

Greg Prieto, PhD
Assistant Professor, Sociology

Donald Trump and Black History Month

February 21, 2017

Christopher Carter, PhD
Assistant Professor, Theology and Religious Studies

Jane Henderson
Student, Black Student Union and
Ronald E. McNair Scholar

Eric Pierson, PhD
Professor, Communication Studies

New Challenges Facing Journalism

February 28, 2017

Mary Brinson, PhD
Visiting Assistant Professor, Communication Studies

Tom Herman
Instructor, Communication Studies

Gina Lew, MA
Professor of Practice, Communication Studies

Brad Melekian, MFA
Assistant Professor, English

Future of Healthcare

March 21, 2017

Eileen Fry-Bowers, PhD, JD, RN, CPNP
Associate Professor, Hahn School of Nursing and
Health Science

Gary Jones, PhD, JD
Professor, Philosophy and Director, Biomedical Ethics

Jillian Tullis, PhD
Assistant Professor, Communication Studies



Intersectional Identities Under President Trump

March 28, 2017

Noelle Norton, PhD
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Jesse Mills, PhD
Chair and Associate Professor, Ethnic Studies

Lori Watson, PhD
Chair and Professor, Philosophy and Affiliate
Faculty, School of Law

Populism and Demagoguery

April 4, 2017

Ryan Abrecht, PhD
Assistant Professor, History
Director, Classical Studies

Harriet Baber, PhD
Professor, Philosophy

Timothy Wyman McCarty, PhD
Assistant Professor, Political Science and
International Relations

Betsy DeVos and the Culture of a University

April 11, 2017

Esteban Del Río, PhD
Associate Professor, Communication Studies
Associate Provost, Inclusion and Diversity
Director, Center for Inclusion and Diversity

Noelle Norton, PhD
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Sandra Sgoutas-Emch, PhD
Professor, Psychological Sciences
Director, Center for Educational Excellence

Matt Zwolinski, PhD
Professor, Philosophy
Director, Center for Ethics, Economics, and
Public Policy

Climate Change and the Environment

April 18, 2017

Michel Boudrias, PhD
Associate Professor, Environmental and
Ocean Sciences

Andy Tirrell, JD
Assistant Professor, Political Science and
International Relations

Mark Woods, PhD
Associate Professor, Philosophy

Foreign Affairs

April 25, 2017

Vidya Nadkani, PhD
Director and Chair, Political Science and
International Relations

Yi Sun, PhD
Associate Professor, History
Director, Asian Studies Program

Randy Willoughby, PhD
Professor, Political Science and
International Relations

Conversation with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL)

May 2, 2017

Monica Bauer, Associate Director and Director of
Latino Affairs ADL CA

Jenna Corbin, Associate Regional Director

Elaine Feuer-Barton, Regional Board Chair



Classes and Seminars

Classes

BIOL 494 - The Human Side of Medicine
Laurence Savett, MD

ENGL 494 - Digital Humanities
Paul Evans, MAR

HUMN 495W - Senior Research Seminar
Atreyee Phukan, PhD



Seminars

POLS 449 - Political Ideas & Ideologies:
The 2016 Election
Timothy Wyatt McCarty, PhD

POLS 449 - Political Ideas & Ideologies:
Understanding Conservatism
Timothy Wyatt McCarty, PhD



The Examined Life Series

The Examined Life seminar examined what it means to lead a good life, a productive life, a happy life, a life of meaning. Participants, including first-year students and USD employees, engaged in open dialogue and free reflections with their peers to address life's biggest questions and explored more about what they love and what they wish for; how they envision and face the challenges and goals in life.

A further extension of this program will occur in 2017-2018 when it will be catered to the needs of retirees.

The Examined Life – First Year Students

Michael Kelly, PhD | Philosophy
Rico Monge, PhD | Theology and Religious Studies

The Examined Life – Employees

Tara Salinas, PhD | School of Business

Originally envisaged for students, The Examined Life seminar was offered to USD Employees.

Philosophy for Veterans

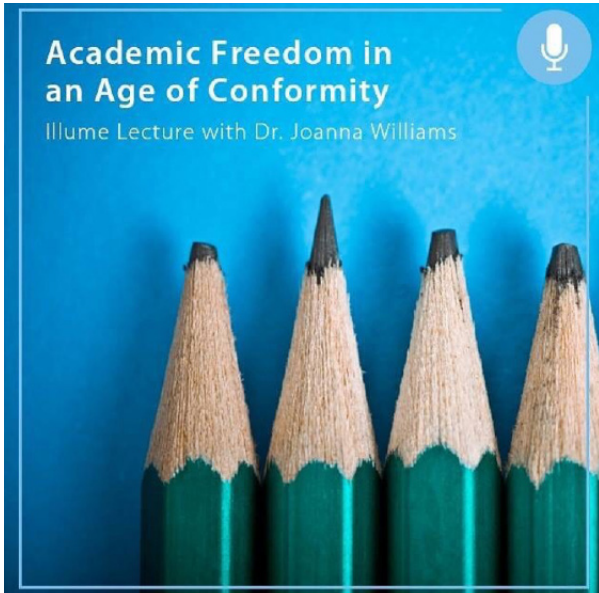
Brian Clack, PhD | Philosophy and Humanities Center

Designed for veterans, the series focused on the appeal and value of philosophy for all people, especially those who have experienced life's more turbulent and troubling phenomena.

List of Events

Academic Freedom in an Age of Conformity

Illume Lecture with Dr. Joanna Williams



Elizabethan Christmas Dinner

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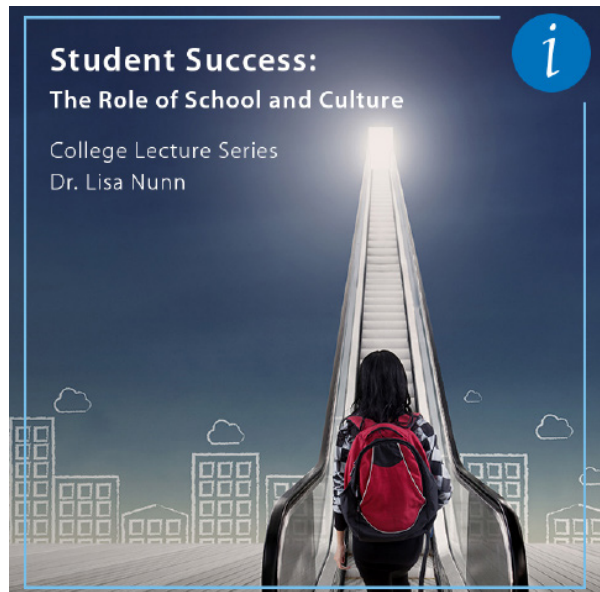


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Student Success: The Role of School and Culture

College Lecture Series
Dr. Lisa Nunn

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- Aesthetics, Medieval and Modern: Aquinas and Joyce on Beauty: A Lecture by Fran O'Rourke, PhD
- Ajax by Sophocles Performance and Talk Back
- Almost Sunrise: Film Screening and Q&A
- An Elizabethan Dinner
- An Evening with Karl Marlantes
- Artist Talk - Preston Singletary
- Book Launch - Cid Martinez, PhD
- Book Launch - Susie Babka, PhD
- Book Launch - Michelle Jacob, PhD
- Book Launch - Reyes Quezada, PhD
- Book Launch - Stefan Vander Elst, PhD
- Book Launch - Steve Early, JD
- Butterfly Project Event and Film Screening
- Chinese Culture & Society Workshop Reception
- Civil Rights Discussion with Ehsan Zaffar, JD
- Conversations in the College
- DH Tech Talk: Scalar
- DH Tools Workshop: Encryption
- DH Tools Workshop: Scalar
- DH Tools Workshop: Zotero
- Erin Gruwell of the Freedom Writers
- Exhibition Opening Reception and Lecture: *Thoughts in Passing: What the Dying Can Teach Us*
- Exhibition Opening Reception: *Full Immersion: An American Patrol Base in Iraq*
- Exhibition Opening Reception: *Traffic 2017: A Collection of Current Student Work*
- Fulbright Alumni Ambassador Workshop
- HC Opening Celebration
- HC Student Open House
- HUMN 495 Capstone Presentation
- Illume/College Lecture Series - Lisa Nunn, PhD
- Illume/College Lecture Series - Michael Kelly, PhD
- Illume/College Lecture Series- Joe Provost, PhD
- Illume/CPEL - Johanna Williams, PhD
- Illume/Knapp - Kimberly Tanner, PhD
- Illume/Knapp - Mike Davis, PhD
- Illume/Knapp - Teófilo Ruiz, PhD
- Illume/Special Guest - Alexander Nemerov, PhD
- Illume/Special Guest - Brian Alexander, Author
- Illume/Special Guest - Pankaj Mishra, Author
- Illume/Special Guest - Rev. Robert W. McElroy, Bishop of San Diego
- Illume/Warwick's - Ann Patchett, Author
- Illume/Warwick's - Carl Hiaasen, Author
- Illume/Warwick's - Deepak Chopra, Author
- Interdisciplinary Majors and Minors Fair
- Interdisciplinary Speed Dating
- JoyceSong: A Concert of Traditional Irish Songs of James Joyce performed by Fran O'Rourke, PhD
- Kevin Rohan Memorial Eco-Foundation: Everyday Changemaking in Nepal
- Knapp Chair Research Working Group: Discussion with Mike Davis
- Kyoto Symposium Talk: Anger and Revolutionary Justice, Martha Craven Nussbaum, PhD
- New Political Landscape: Betsy DeVos and the Culture of a University
- New Political Landscape: Climate Change and the Environment
- New Political Landscape: Conversation with the Anti-Defamation League
- New Political Landscape: Foreign Affairs



- New Political Landscape: Immigration and the Trump Administration
- New Political Landscape: Intersectional Identities Under Trump
- New Political Landscape: New Challenges Facing Journalism
- New Political Landscape: Populism and Demagoguery
- New Political Landscape: The Future of Healthcare
- New Political Landscape: Trump and Black History Month
- New Political Landscape: Truth and Objectivity in the New Politics
- Passion, Principles, and Purpose: Spirituality for Personal and Social Transformation
- Philosophy for Veterans
- Plato Our Contemporary (Student-Led Working Group)
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Community
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Freedom
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Justice
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Understanding and Rethinking Conservatism / Is Catholicism Conservative?
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Understanding and Rethinking Conservatism / Is Libertarian Conservative?
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Understanding and Rethinking Conservatism / Views of Conservatism
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Understanding and Rethinking Conservatism / What is Conservatism?
- Political Ideas and Ideologies: Understanding and Rethinking Conservatism / What is Trumpism?
- Post-Election Student Discussion Forums
- Power of the Powerless (Discussion Group)
- Ready Now: Immigrant Rights Sessions
- Saint Teresa: A Musical Celebration
- SD|DH Learning through Digital Humanities: A Showcase
- Staying Engaged: Faculty and Staff Post-Election Forum
- Suzanne Gordon, The Battle for Veterans Health Care
- Taking Care of our Home: Indigenous Thought and its Relationship with Environmental Preservation
- The Examined Life - Employees
- The Examined Life - First Year Students
- The Future Devoured: Economic Inequality and the Imagination of an Other Time
- The Origins of Changemaker Engineers
- The State and Dalit Christians in India: A People Under Duress. Lecture by Fr. James Ponniah, PhD
- Tom Stoppard's The Real Thing: A Play Reading
- Values Institute Lecture: Markets and Motives with Guido Pincone
- Vices of the Political System of the United States (Discussion Group)
- Viewing Party - Presidential Debate
- Viewing Party - Second Presidential Debate
- Viewing Party - Third Presidential Debate
- Viewing Party - Vice Presidential Debate
- Your Future in Humanities: Career Panel & Networking



Media Coverage



Warth, Gary. "New Center Brings Humanities Back to Spotlight at USD." *The San Diego Union Tribune* 28 October 2016.

Clack, Brian. "Dangers of Party, Partisanship May Put Nation at Risk." *The San Diego Union Tribune* 11 January 2017.

Warth, Gary. "Keck Foundation Grant Boosts Humanities Studies at USD." *The San Diego Union Tribune* 28 March 2017.

People



Humanities Center Staff



Brian Clack, PhD

Director, Humanities Center
Department of Philosophy



Lindy Villa, MA

Humanities Center Coordinator



Paul Evans, MAR

Department of English
Post-Doctoral Fellow in
Digital Humanities



Joan O'Leary '17
Student Assistant



Sam Voge '17
Student Assistant



Element Chairs



Brian Clack, PhD
Department of Philosophy
Public Humanities,
Steering Committee



Noelle Norton, PhD
Dean of College of Arts and
Sciences
Steering Committee



Ron Kaufmann, PhD
Department of Environmental
and Ocean Sciences and
Associate Dean
Interdisciplinary Curriculum,
Steering Committee



Jesse Mills, PhD
Department of Ethnic Studies
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**Maura
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Paul Evans, MAR
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Derrick Cartwright, PhD
Department of Art,
Architecture + Art History and
Director, University Galleries
Humanities Center Gallery



Malachi Black, PhD
Department of English
Alcalá Review

Advisory Board and Working Group

Advisory Board

Adina Batnitzky	Department of Sociology
Odesma Dalrymple	Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering
Hugh Ellis	Department of Biology
Cheryl Getz	School of Leadership and Education Sciences
Frank Jacobitz	Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering
Sue Lowery	Department of Biology
Marcelle Maese-Cohen	Department of English
Molly McClain	Department of History
Jessica Patterson	Department of Art, Architecture + Art History
Atreyee Phukan	Department of English
Emily Reimer-Barry	Department of Theology and Religious Studies
Patricia Roth	Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science
Tara Salinas	School of Business
Leslie Spring	College of Arts and Sciences, Director of Marketing and Communications
Necla Tschirgi	Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies
Mike Williams	Department of Political Science and International Relations and Director, Changemaker Hub
Sally Yard	Department of Art, Architecture + Art History

Digital Humanities Working Group

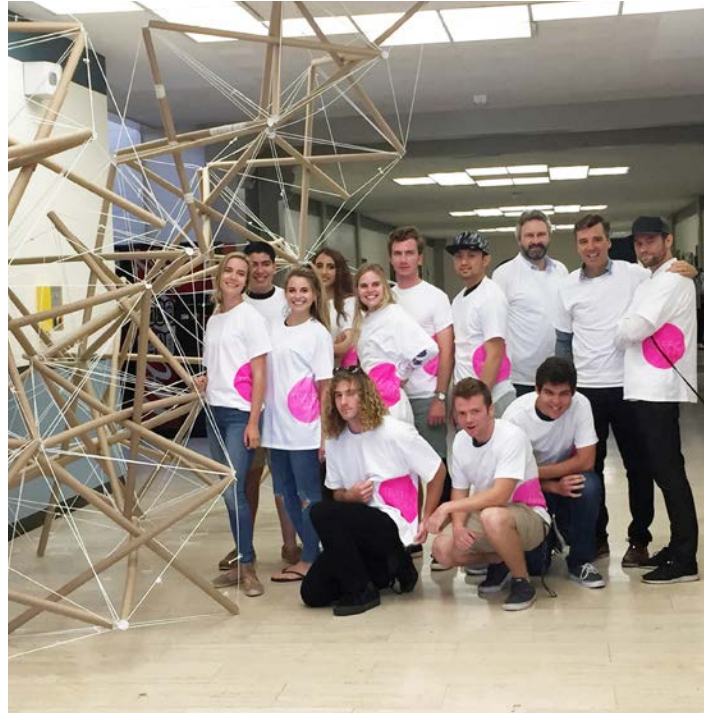
Ryan Abrecht	Department of History
Emily Bezold	Undergraduate Student
Malachi Black	Department of English and Faculty Advisor for <i>The Alcalá Review</i>
Hugh Burkhart	Helen K. and James S. Copley Library, Reference Librarian
Derrick Cartwright	Department of Art, Architecture + Art History and Director, University Galleries
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Austin Fitzpatrick	Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies
Jane Friedman	Department of Mathematics
Maura Giles-Watson	Department of English
John Glick	Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering
Carole Huston	Associate Provost, Department of Communication Studies
Koonyong Kim	Department of English
Marcelle Maese-Cohen	Department of Ethnic Studies
Amanda Makula	Helen K. and James S. Copley Library, Digital Initiatives Librarian
Molly McClain	Department of History
Erin McDonald	Undergraduate Student
Antonieta Mercado	Department of Communication Studies
Shahra Meshkaty	Senior Director of Academic Technology Services
Saba Oskoui	Department of Art, Architecture + Art History
Sandra Sgoutas-Emch	Department of Psychology and Director, Center for Educational Excellence

Looking Ahead

Building for the Future

The W.M. Keck Foundation has awarded USD's Humanities Center a \$250,000 grant. Funding will be used to support a number of programs, including the newly created Keck Undergraduate Humanities Research Fellows Program, and the development of new collaborations between the humanities and other academic areas at the University of San Diego.

With this grant from the Keck Foundation, the Center will inspire new scholarship and curriculum involving the humanities, create novel opportunities for students and faculty to develop and build interdisciplinary collaborations, and extend these important connections across USD and into the broader communities of San Diego and southern California.



Based in Los Angeles, the W. M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 by the late W. M. Keck, founder of the Superior Oil Company. The Foundation's grant making is focused primarily on pioneering efforts in the areas of medical research, science and engineering and undergraduate education. The Foundation also maintains a Southern California Grant Program that provides support for the Los Angeles community, with a special emphasis on children and youth.

2017-2018 Programs and Collaborations

Building upon the opportunities provided to the Humanities Center by the Keck award, our work next year will have as one of its focuses the extension of student involvement and engagement with Center activities. This will be seen most conspicuously in the work of the six Keck Undergraduate Humanities Research Fellows, but also in the creation of a Humanities Center Student Board, in the development of the Changemaker Hub and Humanities Center "My Story Podcasting" program, and in the proliferation of autonomous student reading groups. We will also deepen community partnerships and expand collaborations with other units on campus.

We are in the process of developing a dynamic and highly relevant series of events addressing the theme of "dangerous ideas." This will include panel discussions, film screenings and exhibitions pertaining to ideas, movements and works of art that have at one time or another been banned or censored. This series will be co-sponsored with a variety of campus units, including the Changemaker Hub and the new Film Studies minor.

Amidst all of this, we will continue to deliver the eclectic mix of lectures, exhibitions and seminars that proved invigorating in our first successful year of operation. A list of Humanities Center Fall 2017 events will be available online in late summer.

HUMANITIES CENTER

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University of San Diego